

Kansas Rehabilitation Services

State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation & Supported Employment Services Federal Fiscal Years 2011-2013

Attachment 4.8(b)(3) Cooperative agreements with private nonprofit organizations

To offer a full array of vocational rehabilitation services to meet the needs and interests of people with disabilities, Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) will continue its extensive partnerships with community service providers.

Manner in which such agreements are established

Contracts and service provider agreements are established to help KRS consumers achieve their individual employment goals, to increase system capacity for community services, to support innovative approaches to service delivery, to enhance services to specific populations, and to increase consumer choice among available service providers. These contracts and agreements also help KRS maintain geographic distribution of services. Procedures in establishing such agreements emphasize the role of regional KRS offices to identify needed services and to monitor the usage and effectiveness of the services provided through the agreements. The contracts and agreements define the nature and scope of services to be provided, outcome measurements, procedures for referrals, authorizations, reporting requirements, fees, billing and financial procedures.

Service provider agreements are available for a variety of services, including vocational assessment, independent living assessment, community-based work assessment, community-based job tryout, job preparation, guided placement, customized placement, job coaching, rehabilitation engineering, assistive technology, rehabilitation teaching and orientation/mobility. These agreements emphasize the development of action plans, strengthened approaches to ongoing communication among KRS counselors and service providers, and accountability measures for successful rehabilitation outcomes.

Service providers participating in these agreements include community rehabilitation programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, consumer-run organizations, independent living centers, mental health centers, substance abuse programs, their affiliates, assistive technology access sites, and independent contractors. Providers may offer more than one service and serve more than one region of the state.

In addition, state-only funding supports:

- \$125,000 to United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas (UCPK), Wichita to provide individual assistive technology equipment, devices and services to enhance the independent living of Kansas with disabilities. The state funds are matched with private funds provided through UCPK and other private donors, leveraging additional spending power from the state's investment.
- \$160,050 to the Kansas Youth Empowerment Academy for career and leadership training, and mentoring for youth with disabilities. Funding includes state dollars and fee funds. No federal funding is provided.